WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A capped poly(oxyalkylated) alcohol having the formula:

$$RO(R^1O)_XCH(CH_3)OR^2$$

wherein, R is selected from the group consisting of linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted, aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon radicals having from about 1 to about 30 carbon atoms; R^1 may be the same or different, and is independently selected from the group consisting of branched or linear C_2 to C_7 alkylene in any given molecule; x is a number from 1 to about 30; and R^2 is selected from the group consisting of:

(i) a 4 to 8 membered substituted, or unsubstituted heterocyclic ring containing from 1 to 3 hetero atoms; and

(ii) linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted, cyclic or acyclic, aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon radicals having from about 1 to about 30 carbon atoms;

provided that when R^2 is (ii) then either at least one of R^1 is other than C_2 to C_3 alkylene or R^2 has from 6 to 30 carbon atoms.

2. The compound as claimed in Claim 1 wherein R is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted, aliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from about 1 to about 20 carbon atoms.

3. The compound as claimed in Claim 2 wherein R is a linear or branched, saturated, aliphatic hydrocarbon radicals having from about 4 to about 18 carbon atoms.

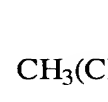
4. The compound as claimed in Claim 1 wherein R has the formula:

$$CH_3(CH_2)_qCH(CH_2)_rCH(CH_2)_sCH(CH_2)_tCH_2—$$

(with R^4 on the first CH, R^5 on the second CH, R^6 on the third CH)

wherein R^4, R^5, and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_3 alkyl, and mixtures thereof, provided that R^4, R^5, and R^6 are not all hydrogen and, when t is 0, at least R^4 or R^5 is not hydrogen; q, r, s, t are each independently integers from 0 to 13.

5. The compound as claimed in Claim 4 wherein R has the formula:



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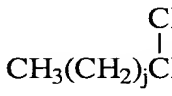
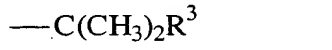


,

wherein n, m, j and k are each independently integers from 0 to 13.

6. The compound as claimed in Claim 1 wherein R^2 is a hydrocarbon radical of the formula:



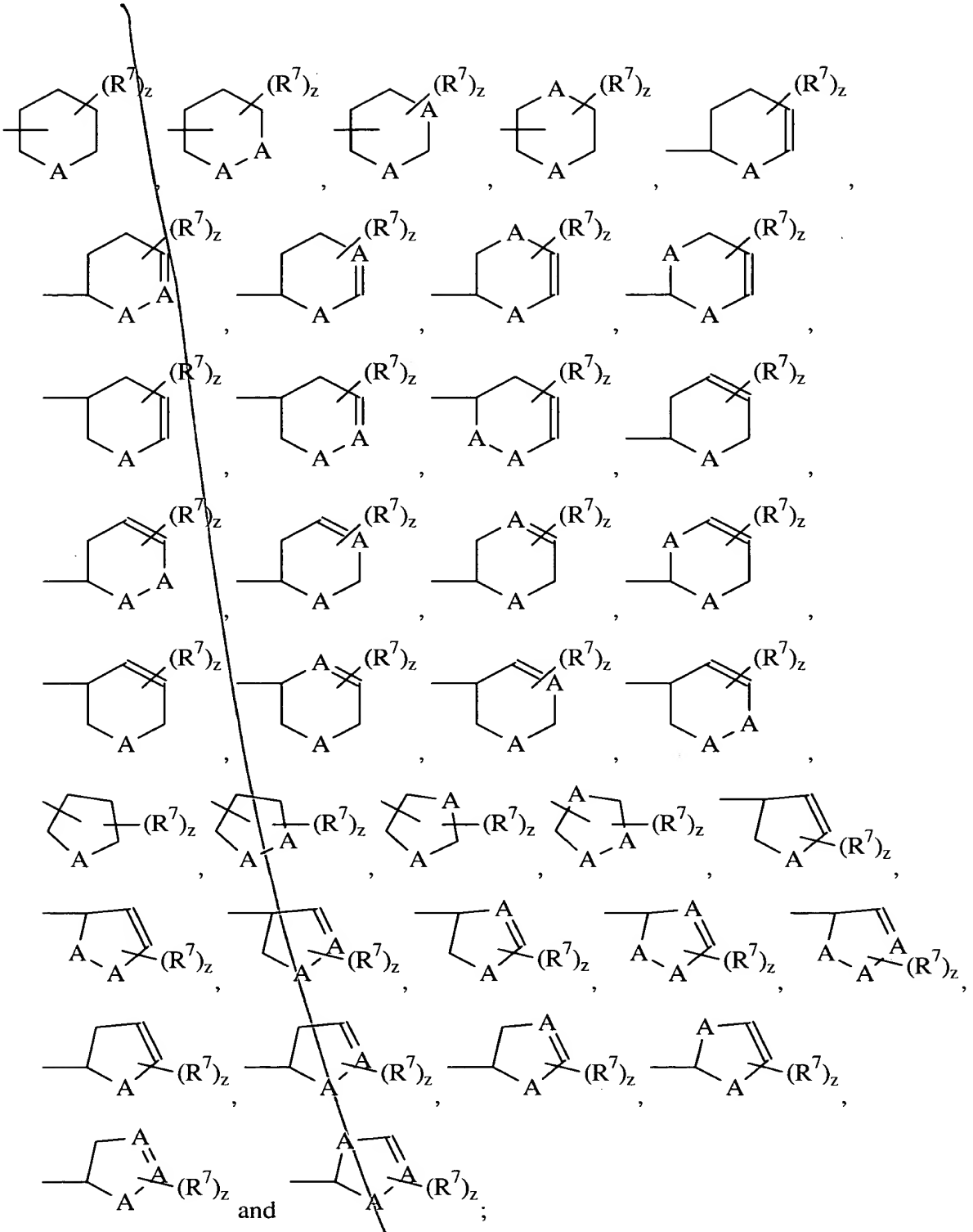
wherein R^3 is selected from the group consisting of linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted, aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon radicals having from about 1 to about 30.

7. The compound as claimed in Claim 6 wherein R^3 is CH_3CH_2.

8. The compound as claimed in Claim 1 wherein R^2 is a 4 to 8 member substituted, or unsubstituted heterocyclic ring containing from 1 to 3 hetero atoms.

9. The compound as claimed in Claim 8 wherein said heterocycle is a 5 or 6 member heterocycle.

10. The compound as claimed in Claim 9 wherein said heterocycle is selected from the group consisting of:

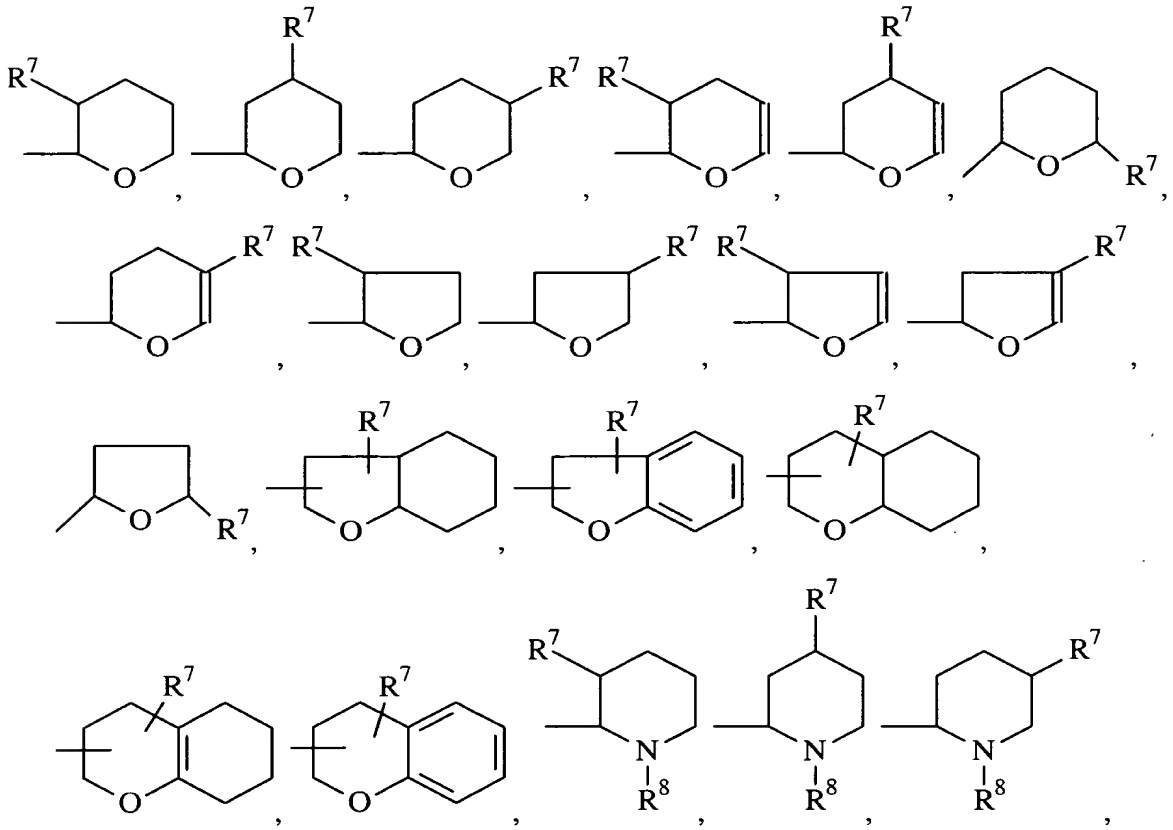


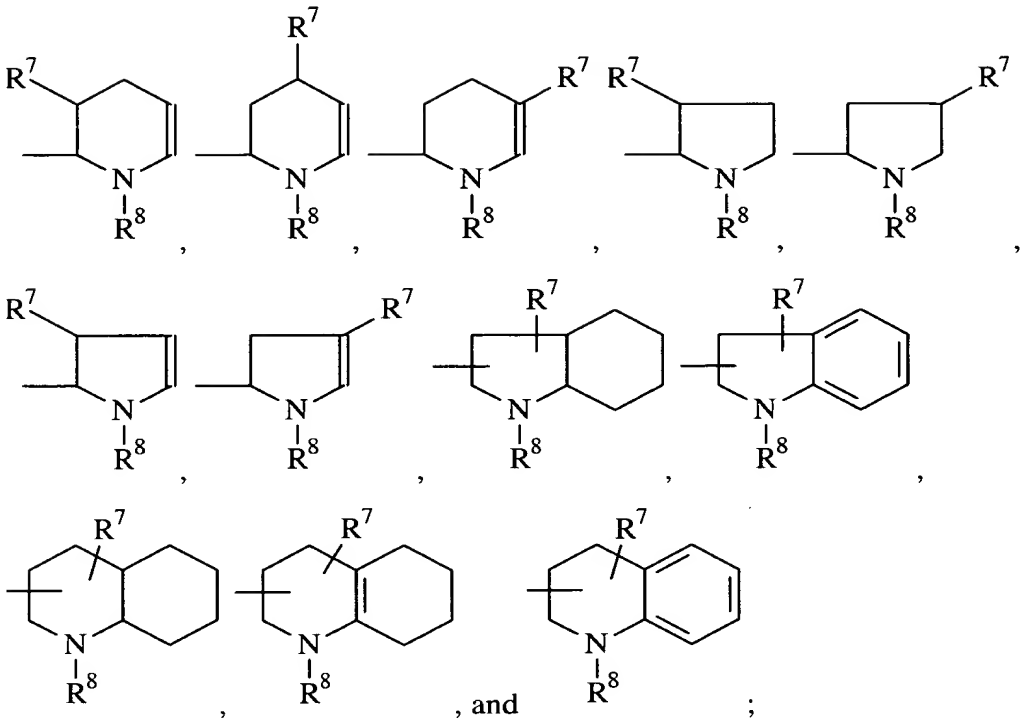
and

wherein each R^7 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted, aliphatic hydrocarbon or alkoxy radical having from about 1 to about 10 carbon atoms, or R^7 is

a saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted, alicyclic or aromatic hydrocarbon or alkoxy radical having, from about 1 to about 10 carbon atoms, which is fused to the heterocyclic ring; each A is independently selected from the group consisting of O, and $N(R^8)_a$, wherein R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted, aliphatic hydrocarbon or alkoxy radical having from about 1 to about 10 carbon atoms, and a is either 0 or 1; z is an integer from 1 to 3.

11. The compound as claimed in Claim 10 wherein said heterocycle is selected from the group consisting of:

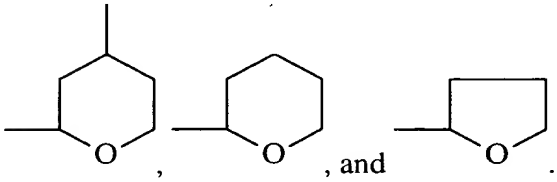




wherein R^7 and R^8 are defined as above.

12. The compound as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said ether-capped poly(oxyalkylated) alcohol contains a chiral center.

13. The compound as claimed in Claim 11 wherein said heterocycle is selected from the group consisting of:



14. The compound as claimed in Claim 1 wherein R^2 is a 7 to 13 membered substituted, or unsubstituted polycyclic ring.

15. The compound as claimed in Claim 14 wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of substituted, or unsubstituted adamantane, substituted, or unsubstituted

norbornane, substituted, or unsubstituted nortricyclene, and substituted, or unsubstituted bicyclo[2.2.2]octane.

16. The compound as claimed in Claim 1 wherein R is selected from the group consisting of linear or branched, aliphatic hydrocarbon radicals having from about 7 to about 11 carbon atoms; x is a number from 6 to about 10; and R^2 is selected from the group consisting of a hydrocarbon radical of the formula:

$$—C(CH_3)_2R^3$$

wherein R^3 is selected from the group consisting of linear or branched, aliphatic radicals having from about 2 to about 5 carbon atoms.

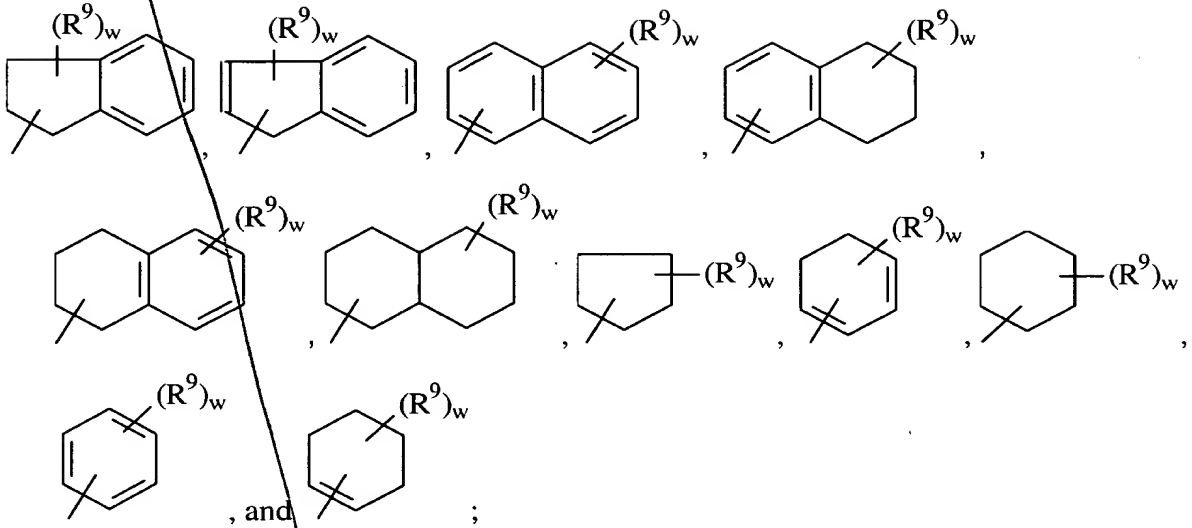
17. The compound as claimed in Claim 1 wherein R^2 is a hydrocarbon of the formula:

$$—(CH_2)_y—X$$

wherein, y is an integer from 0 to 7: and X is a 4 to 8 membered substituted, or unsubstituted, partially unsaturated cyclic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical.

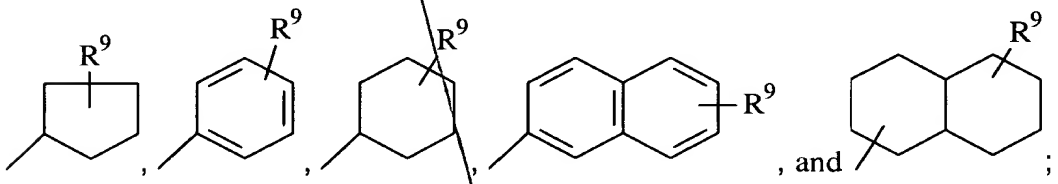
18. The compound as claimed in Claim 17 wherein y is 0 and X is a 5 or 6 membered substituted, or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated cyclic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical.

19. The compound as claimed in Claim 17 wherein X is selected from the group consisting of:



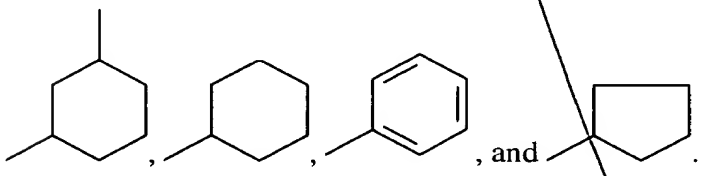
wherein each R^9 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted, aliphatic hydrocarbon or alkoxy radical having from about 1 to about 10 carbon atoms, or R^9 is a saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted, alicyclic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical having, from about 1 to about 10 carbon atoms, which is fused to the ring; w is an integer from 1 to 3.

20. The compound as claimed in Claim 19 wherein X is selected from the group consisting of:



wherein R^9 is defined as above.

21. The compound as claimed in Claim 19 wherein X is selected from the group consisting of:



22. The compound as claimed in Claim 1 wherein R is selected from the group consisting of linear or branched, aliphatic hydrocarbon radicals having from about 7 to about 11 carbon atoms; x is a number from 6 to about 10; and R^2 is selected from the group consisting of a hydrocarbon radical of the formula:

$$—(CH_2)_y—X$$

wherein y is 0 and X, is a 5 or 6 membered substituted, or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated cyclic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical.

23. The process as claimed in Claim 22 wherein X is selected from the group consisting of